

# Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF)

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LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S OFFICE

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Natural Resources and Environmental Protection

Hon. Fran Pavley, Chair





## Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF)

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- ☒ The ELPF was established in 1979 to fund the California Environmental Protection Program. Funding is derived from the sale of personalized motor vehicle license plates.
- ☒ Use of ELPF money is restricted to the following purposes:
  - The control and abatement of air pollution.
  - The acquisition, preservation, and restoration of natural areas or ecological reserves.
  - The purchase of real property for park purposes.
  - Environmental education.
  - Protection of nongame species and threatened and endangered plants and animals.
  - Protection, enhancement, and restoration of fish and wildlife habitat, and related water quality.
  - Reduction of the effects of soil erosion and the discharge of sediment into the waters of the Lake Tahoe region.
- ☒ Statute does not specify the extent ELPF money has to be used for one-time expenditures, such as capital outlay expenditures, and providing assistance for local projects or for ongoing support of state programs and operations.



## Use of Environmental License Plate Fund

**Figure 1**

### Use of Environmental License Plate Fund Support Versus "One-Time" Expenditures

(2001-02 Through 2006-07)  
(Dollars in Millions)

	Support	Percent	"One-Time" (Local Assistance Or Capital Outlay)	Percent	Totals
2001-02	\$23.5	96.8%	\$0.8	3.2%	\$24.3
2002-03	30.3	89.7	4.1	12.0	34.4
2003-04	25.2	87.6	3.6	12.4	28.7
2004-05	27.4	88.5	3.6	11.5	31.0
2005-06	33.4	89.6	3.9	10.4	37.2
2006-07 <sup>a</sup>	33.3	88.3	4.4	11.7	37.7

<sup>a</sup> As proposed in the 2006-07 Governor's Budget (including April Finance letters).

### New Uses of Environmental License Plate Fund

- **Secretary for Resources.** Beginning in 2002-03, \$2.3 million was shifted from the General Fund to ELPF to support the operations of the Secretary for Resources.
- **California Tahoe Conservancy.** Beginning in 2002-03, \$2.8 million was shifted from the General Fund to ELPF to support the operations of the California Tahoe Conservancy.
- **Department of Fish and Game (DFG).** Beginning in 2002-03, \$1.6 million was shifted from the Public Resources Account (PRA) to ELPF for support activities for DFG, and \$572,000 was shifted from the PRA for one-time minor capital outlay projects for that year only. Beginning in 2005-06, \$500,000 was shifted from the Marine Life and Marine Reserve Account to ELPF to support Marine Life Protection Act activities.
- **Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.** Beginning in 2002-03, \$3 million was shifted from the General Fund to ELPF to support the operation of TRPA.